MSP for paddy

2435. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to enhance the current paddy support price;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy for 2005-06 were fixed by the Government at Rs. 570 per quintal for common variety and Rs. 600 per quintal for the Grade A of paddy. There is no proposal to enhance the support price.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Trade margin of non-branded drugs

2436. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present trade margin on non-branded drugs;

(b) whether Government propose to induct fixed trade margin on these drugs;

(c) if so, how much;

(d) whether his Ministry proposes to introduce a cess on all Central taxes to raise funds; and

(e) if so, the rates thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (e) Prices of Scheduled drugs and formulations based thereon (branded and non-branded) are fixed by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of para 7 of the Drugs (Prices Control)